OHIO CULTIVATOR.

A Semi-Monthly Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture.

VOL. 2. COLUMBUS, OHIO, MAY 15, 1846. NO. 10

OHIO CULTIVATOR.

A Semi-Monthly journal, devoted to the improvement of Agriculture, Horticulture, and the Mecanic Arts—and the promotion of domestic industry.

M. B. BATEHAM,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:

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Address M. B. BATEHAM, Columbus, O.

The way to do it.

We frequently receive letters from our friendly readers, informing us that very few of the farmers in their townships or neighborhoods have as yet ever seen a copy of the Ohio Cultivator, or are aware that such a paper is in existence, and urging us to send an agent there, &c.—Now we would say to such, that we have no agents at present in our employ, and experience proves that a person residing in the neighborhood can in nearly all cases if disposed, accomplish the work better than a stranger.—To show how this is sometimes done, we will here insert a brief letter recently received from a worthy friend, who we trust will pardon us the liberty.

———, *Morgan co, O, 5th mo., 7th*, 1846.

Esteemed friend Bateham:—During a recent visit to Knox county, I met with that valuable paper, the Ohio Cultivator. I was much pleased with it, and was forcibly struck with the beneficial effects which it had produced on a number of farmers and their families where on inquiry I learned it was taken—the improved appearance of the grounds, buildings, fences, stock, &c., gave evidence of a stimulus of more than ordinary kind. On returning home, the great need of such a stimulus forced itself upon my attention. I immediately called at the post office and found a specimen copy of the Cultivator, with which I went to work, and in an hour and a half, obtained four subscribers. I have since obtained four more, and herewith enclose you the pay ($6) for eight copies of the present volume, to be directed as follows: * * *

I am thy friend.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.—We received a letter, a short time since, from J. W. Putnam, of Centre Belpre, Washington county, O., enclosing payment for the Cultivator for himself and three others, and stating that all four of the subscribers are young men not yet out of their minority; "but," the writer adds, "we are determined to be *farmers*, and we wish, in addition to the benefits of our fathers' experience, to obtain a knowledge of the improvements that others have made in the arts of cultivation."

Let this spirit become generally diffused among the farmers' sons of Ohio, and in ten years time we challenge any other state in the Union to equal her in agricultural wealth and prosperity.

A Few more Left!

In answer to frequent inquiries, we would inform our friends and agents that we continue to supply back numbers of the current volume, and we still have enough on hand to supply 500 or more subscribers—so don't be afraid to send on the names.

Several hundred copies of Volume one, handsomely done up in paper covers, are also on hand—only 75 cts. each; many of our new subscribers will regret it when they are all gone.

☞ *Right.*—We observe that several talented writers on Agriculture in different parts of the state are stirring up the minds of the farmers through the columns of their county newspapers. Much good can be done in this way, especially in aid of the formation of county agricultural societies.

Ohio Wool Clip.

Few persons who have not given particular attention to the matter, have any adequate conception of the extent and value of the wool crop of Ohio. According to the census of 1840, there were at that time, 2,028,401 sheep in the State. All who are familiar with the subject we think will admit that we may safely estimate the number to be doubled every three years, at a time when farmers generally desire to increase their flocks, and wool raising is comparatively as profitable as it has been for the past 5 or 6 years. This perhaps will not make due allowance for the number of sheep slaughtered, killed by dogs, and driven out of the State, but we have no hesitation in avowing the opinion that the number of sheep in Ohio at the present time is not less than FIVE MILLIONS; (the number in New York in 1840 was 5,118,177.)

Estimating the fleeces of these at only 2¼ lbs. each, the aggregate clip would be 12,500,000 lbs. This at an average of 27 cts. per lb. will give the snug sum of $3,375,000. This important harvest will now shortly commence.

Prospects of the Wool Market.

We are not able at present to give any more definite answer to inquiries respecting the prospects of the prices of wool, than is contained in the following extract from a late Philadelphia Commercial List:

'WOOL.—As the time for sheep shearing is now approaching, we have taken some pains to ascertain the opinions of dealers, and others acquainted with the subject, as to the prospects of wool for the coming season. From the increased consumption of the last year, and the exportation of fully five thousand bales of native wool to Europe, it was apprehended the stock might be exhausted before a new supply could be furnished from the coming crop. This feeling has now entirely ceased, for, although the stock in this and the eastern market is small, as is usual at this period of the year, it is still sufficient for the wants of manufacturers, most of whom have enough to keep them employed till the new crop comes in.

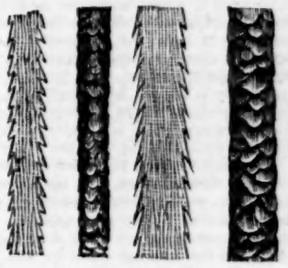
'The question is now conclusively settled, that the production of wool has become so great in this country, that we shall have a considerable surplus for exportation; and hence the price of the whole clip will, in a great measure, be regulated by its value in foreign markets; and we believe, from the best data we have been able to obtain, that most of the wool which has been shipped during the past season, has not produced any profit to the shipper, but, on the contrary, a loss. We, therefore, think that prices will rule somewhat lower in this market during the coming year than during the past. This seems to be the general opinion of intelligent merchants and others, who have examined the subject. Advices by the last steamer, state that trade in the English manufacturing districts was less active than it had been for many previous months, which serves to confirm this opinion.

'The working quality of American wool has proved very satisfactory to manufacturers in England, and is highly prized, but we have heard many complaints of bad washing, and the careless manner in which it is graded and put up. More attention must be paid by the growers and receivers of wool, to these particulars, in order to insure ready sale at the highest prices. As the shearing season progresses, we will endeavor to give our country friends some correct information on this subject, as well as other particulars respecting this very important staple.

'Our market has been quite inactive during the past week. Most of the manufacturers have supplies on hand, and those wanting wool, purchase only in small quantities, to meet their immediate wants.'

The felting properties of Wool.

By *felting*, most of our readers are aware, is meant that property which causes the fibres of wool, in certain processes of manufacturing, to become so intimately and firmly united and intermingled as to form almost a solid mass; as for instance in hat bodies and some kinds of firm cloth, and less perfectly in all cloths that have undergone the process called *fulling*. It is only a few years since, by the aid of very powerful microscopes, the cause of this property in wool was fully discovered. Mr Youatt, in his elaborate treatise on sheep and wool, has given an interesting account of the discovery, with drawings showing the appearance of the fibres of different varieties of wool, viewed through a most powerful microscope.



No. 1. No. 2. No. 3. No. 4.

The above cuts (from Youatt) represent fibres of wool (highly magnified) from Merino and South Down fleeces No. 1, a fibre of Merino wool, viewed as a transparent object (*i. e.* with the light behind the object). No. 2, the same, viewed as an opaque object (*i. e.* with the light thrown upon or before the object). No. 3, a fibre of South Down wool, transparent. No. 4, the same opaque.

Many readers will be surprised to see fibres of wool represented as jagged and rough as a pine cone, or having teeth like the edge of a saw; yet such is found to be its real structure. It is completely covered with uniform scales or lamellæ, forming minute indentures or teeth, which under the processes of fulling and felting become interlocked in each other so that the fibres cannot be moved.

The form and number of these scales or serrations is different in different kinds of wool, and this, in connection with the natural *curl* in the finer grades, constitutes their peculiar value for certain kinds of manufactures. Those wishing further information on this subject are referred to 'The American Shepherd.'

A Record of the past Season.

The year 1845, will long be remembered by the farmers of Ohio; and believing that many of our readers would like to preserve a record of the remarkable peculiarities of that season, for future reference, we copy into our columns the following excellent article on the subject, from the last number of the American Journal of Science and Arts:

Abstract of a Meteorological Journal, for the year 1845, *kept at Marietta, O.;* by S. P. HILDRETH, M. D.

MONTHS.	THERMOMETER			Fair days.	Cloudy days.	Rain and melted snow, in inches.	Prevailing Winds.	BAROMETER		
	Mean temperature.	Maximum.	Minimum.					Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.
January,	37,10	58	22	10	21	2,58	S. W., N. W.	29,83	29-10	73
February,	38,33	70	8	18	10	1,50	W., S. W.	29 75	29-05	70
March,	43,50	77	18	17	14	2,67	N. W., N.	29,80	29-08	72
April,	58,47	89	15	23	7	2,50	W., N. W., N.	29,70	29-35	35
May,	59,70	85	30	26	5	1,33	N., N.W., S.W.	29,70	29-38	32
June,	69,74	90	44	17	13	6,55	S. W., S. E.	29,65	29-28	37
July,	72,57	90	49	22	9	3,22	S. W., N., N.W.	29,55	29-20	35
August,	71,17	90	52	23	8	2,00	S. W., S.	29,65	29-25	40
September,	63,90	84	40	21	9	4,38	S. W., N.	29,60	29-25	35
October,	50,74	76	23	25	6	2,80	S. W., N.	29,96	29-55	71
November,	42,10	73	18	17	13	3,04	S. W., W., N. W.	29,80	29-12	68
December,	25,40	45	-2	17	14	1,33	W., N. W., N.	29,72	29-18	54
Mean,	52,73			226	129	33,90				

Remarks on the year 1845.—The year which has jus closed will long be remembered in the annals of Ohio, for the cold drying winds and late frosts which attended the spring months, and the excessive drouth of the summer; especially over the central and northern portions of the State. At Marietta, from the tenth of March to the 22d of April, there fell less than two twelfths of an inch of rain; while the cold drying winds from the west and the northwest, served to evaporate, with great rapidity, the moisture which usually saturates the earth from the raint of the latter part of winter and early spring. The effect of these cold drying winds on the meadows and pastures

was very injurious, checking the growth of the grasses and shrivelling their roots, so that by the middle of May, there was little more appearance of vegetation than there usually is in the last of March. Farmers who had hay, fed their cattle the same as they do in winter; and the earth was not fairly soaked with rain until the middle of June. Repeated frosts continued to follow each other until the first of that month, cutting down and destroying the corn, potatoes and beans, three or four times in succession; so that most fields needed to be replanted and replowed two or three times, making it as late as the fifth of June, when the last replanting took place. Early planted potatoes were nearly all ruined, yielding a crop but little larger in amount than the seed used. — Wheat suffered excessively from the drouth and frosts. — On the 9th of April, the mercury fell to 15 deg. Fahr.; killing many fields of wheat, which the warmth of March had hurried forward in its growth earlier than usual. — About the middle of June, the prospect for crops was very gloomy, and there was much fear that we should have a greater scarcity of food, both for man and beast, than was ever seen in Ohio. After that time, abundant rains set in through the southern portions of the State, and the wheat and corn revived in a wonderful manner; the former yielding a medium crop, and the latter a pretty fair one. The meadows were too much exhausted by the drouth to recover their fertility, and the growth of hay was a great failure, yielding less than half the amount of usual years, and that of a very poor quality. The price of hay, which is commonly five of six dollars a ton, rose to ten or eleven in the farming districts, and to fifteen and eighteen in the cities. In addition to the other calamities of the season, the disease called *'the rot,'* appeared among the potatoes, and destroyed large quantities of this valuable vegetable. What may be the ultimate result of this new scourge remains to be seen. It may continue to spread and increase in malignity, or more favorable seasons may put a check to it entirely. The late spring frosts were more destructive to the fruits than to the grain and grasses. Apples, pears, peaches, plums and cherries were an entire failure, except in a few favored spots, from Wheeling to Cincinnati, along the river and extending back to the vicinity of Lake Erie. Grapes, gooseberries and strawberries suffered in the same way, about Marietta. The first were all killed, except where protected by the warmth of a building, from the frost in May. The season was very similar in this respect to that of the year 1834.

The mean temperature of the year 1845 was 52-73 deg., which is about the average for a series of years. The Author of nature has so arranged the seasons that the amount of heat in any one year does not materially differ from that of another, although to a careless observer it may seem not to be so. It is oftentimes distributed in a different manner; one spring being warmer than another, and one summer much cooler, thus causing an exceeding great variety in the seasons, all for wise and beneficent purposes. Yet amidst all this diversity, the wisdom of God is displayed in she exceeding regularity and certainty of the laws which govern the temperature of the year, not only in the same, but in different climates. 'Summer and winter, seed-time and harvest,' we are assured, shall regularly return so long as the earth continueth.

The amount of rain and melted snow was 33-90 inches, being about 6 inches less than the mean annual average for this climate. Here also the same beautiful laws which regulate the heat, govern the quantity of rain which is needed to supply the necessities of plants and animals, being nicely adapted to the moderate or rapid manner in which it is evaporated by the heat of the climate. In the cold regions of the north, a few inches supply all the wants of the vegetable kingdom; while in the tropics, it is poured down in torrents, amounting in some places to twelve or fourteen feet annually. Who but an atheist could fail, in this law, to see the guiding and directing hand of the great Architect of the Heavens.

Winter. — The mean temperature of the winter months was 36-60 deg., which is more than two degrees warmer than in 1844. The mercury was at no time down to zero; the coldest day being the 7th of February, when it fell to ight degrees above. The Ohio river was not frozen over, and steamboats continued to run all winter, with the exception of a few days about the 20th of December. No ice was formed of sufficient thickness for laying up in ice houses, and only a scanty supply was procured from floating fragments in the Ohio, at the breaking up of the Alleghany, in February. The amount of snow was small, the greatest quantity at any one time being three inches, which was in December — it being remembered that in making up the temperature of a winter, this month is always attached to that of the following year, where it properly belongs.

Spring. — The mean temperature for the spring months was 53-89 deg., which is two degrees less than that of 1844, and nearly five less than that of 1842. The months of Feb. and March were each nearly a degree warmer than those of 1844, and brought forth vegetation at a rapid rate, so that the garden crocus was in bloom by the 20th of the former month, and until the 20th of the latter, there was every prospect of an early and favorable spring, but after that time, the frequent frosts or April and May detroyed all the flattering prospects of the flower garden and orchard. The following floral calender will show the progress of vegetation and the injuries which it sustained from the inclemency of the season.

Floral calander. — February 11th, robin, Turdus migratorious, appears; 12th, blue-bird, Hirundo purpurea, seen; 20th, yellow crocus in bloom, honey bee at work; 24th, the earth is sufficiently dry and warm to plant onions, peas and potatoes.

March 5th, red elm and willow in bloom; 6th, Hepatica triloba in bloom; 10th, daffodil; 12th, apricot tree in bloom; 13th, early hyacinth; 19th, windy, with showers of snow; on the morning of the 22d, the mercury fell to 18 deg., which is several degrees lower than since the 7th of February; but there was frost nearly every morning from the 12th to the 29th of March; 29th, scarlot-colored Pyrus japonica in bloom; 30th, peach tree and crown imperial; 31st, streets dry and dusty — no rain for twenty one days.

April 2d, Italian narcissus in bloom; 3d, Sanguinaria canadensis; 5th, imperial gage; 6th, Mespilus arborea, June berry; 8th, cold wind — snow fell half an inch in the night — mercury at 22 deg.; 9th, thermometer at 15deg. in the morning — all ended with a cold dry wind. Last night destroyed the blossoms and germs of nearly all the various kinds of fruit; also a vast many flowering buds of the tulip, which were just beginning to appear above the surface. Out of more than two thousand bulbs of this splendid flower, not more than sixty or eighty ever opened their petals. Several large plants of the Pæonia moutan, which is one of the most hardy of plants, suffered in the same way, although covered with mats; only one plant escaped, which was of the single variety, and was protected by being covered with a barrel. Peas three inches high were killed. 10th, on this day the great fire at Pittsburgh took place; 11th, Anemone virginiana; 12th, earth very dry — plants dwarfish and sickly; 16th, cherry in bloom, but the germ is black and dead; 18th, apple tree in bloom, germ brown; 19th, primrose and cowslip; 20th, Ranunculus acris; 21st, vernal snow-drop; 22d, Anona glabra, or papaw — the fruit all killed, except in one sheltered spot, a few miles below on the Ohio river; 24th, Trillium thalictroides — also black haw; 26th, Cornus florida in bloom. The Cercis ohioensis, or red-bud, which opens its beautiful purple blossoms at the same time with the Cornus, and affords such a rich contrast of color, in this year barren, being killed by the cold of the 9th. It is one of our most common forest ornaments, and is greatly missed. 27th, Claytonia and columbine; 28th, pea in bloom, from shoots thrown up since the 9th; 30th single Pæonia moutan.

May 1st, Cineraria canadensis — double yellow rose; 2d, rose colored peony, herbaceous; 3d purple mulberry; 8th, hard frost this morning, killing beans, corn and grape blossoms; 9th Boursault rose in bloom; 10th, Rubus villosus — the frost destroyed nearly all the fruit of this full berry, which is a rare occurrence — black walnut; 11th, Robinia pseudacacia, which is thirteen days later than last year; 14th, Kalmia latifolia — this shrub bears transplanting well when in blossom; 15th, Maclura aurantiaca; 17th, Prunus virginiana — hard frost this morning; 19th, Magnolia tripetala; 24th, strawberry ripe — peas fit for the table; 25th, Syringa philadelphica; 26th, hard frost; 27th, Privet in bloom; 30th and 31st, frost on both these mornings — Seneca locust in bloom.

June 1st, rose bugs appear in thousands, and are very destructive to the blossoms of grapes, a few of which on the sides of buidings escaped the frosts; 2d, hardy roses generally in bloom; 6th, drouth very severe — pastures, meadows and corn perishing; 11th, Catalpa tree in bloom. After the 10th of this month there was an abundance of rain, six and a half inches falling by the end of the month The effect on plants and vegetation was surprising, reviving the perishing wheat and corn in a few days to vigorous growth. 14th, Sambucus canadensis; 17th, black raspberry ripe; 18th, cucumbers fit for the table, protected under boxes; 23d, red and white Antwerp raspberry ripe, such as escaped the frosts; 30th, wheat harvest begins in early sown fields. Indian corn has grown so rapidly in the last fifteen days, that it looks nearly as well as in ordinary years. Some fields were replanted three times. — This grain can be planted from the first of April to the first of June in this climate, and make a crop.

July 1st, whortleberry ripe, being protected from frosts by the forest trees, among which they grow; 10th, chestnut tree in bloom; 16th hay harvest begins, some weeks later than usual, and the crop is poor and thin.

Summer. — The mean temperature of the summer months was 71-16 deg., which is a little higher than that of 1844, and was favorable in this part of Ohio to vegetation. In June and July, there fell nearly as much rain as in the five preceding months, and produced a rapid growth in Indian corn, potatoes and oats. The wheat crop was a tolerable one, and the grain generally ripened well. — Nearly all our summer fruit were destroyed, such as strawberries, gooseberries, currents, peaches and grapes. Melons of both varieties, planted after the first of June, produced fine crops, and partly compensated for the loss of the fruit. Apples and pears were very scarce, and what few there were generally proved defective and rotted soon. For winter use, there were very few orchards that produced any, which was a serious loss to many farmers near Marrietta, who put up annually for market from five hundred to two thousand barrels, ofthe choicest varieties.

Autumn. — The mean temperature of the autumnal months was 52-25 deg. This season was very pleasant while it continued, but terminated rather abruptly the latter part of November; the last nine days were quite cold, and the ground was covered with snow on the 30th. December commenced with great severity; on the morning of the first day, the snow which fell on the last night of November, was nine inches deep; and the morning of the 2d, the mercury sunk to zero. The rivers were filled with floating ice, and on the 5th day of December, the Ohio was frozen over, and the navigation of boats remained obstructed into January, 1846. The thermometer has been below zero on several mornings and the season is thus far the coldest we have had for several years.

A brief account of the drouth in the northern portion of Ohio, in the vicinity of Lake Erie. — The district of country which suffered the most, was about one hundred miles in length, and fifty or sixty in width, extending nearly east and west parallel with the lake, and in some places directly bordering on the shore of this great inland sea. — There was no rain from the last of March or the first of April until the tenth of June, when there fell a little rain for one day, but no more until the 2d of July, when there probably fell half an inch, as it made the roads a little muddy. From this time, no more rain fell until early in September. This long continued drouth reduced the streams of water to mere rills, and many springs and wells heretofore unfailing became dry, or nearly so. The grass crop entirely failed, and through several counties the pature grounds in places were so dry, that in walking across them the dust would rise under the feet, as in highways. So dry was the grass in meadows, that fires, when accidentally kindled, would run over them as over a stubble-field, and great caution was required to prevent damage from them. The crop of oats and corn was nearly destroyed. Many fields of wheat so perished that no attempt was made to harvest them. — Scions set in the nursery, dried up for lack of sap in the stocks, and many of the forest trees withered, and all shed their leaves much earlier than usual. The health of the inhabitants was not materially affected, although much sickness was anticipated. Grasshoppers were multiplied exceedingly in many places, and destroyed every green thing that the drouth had spared, even to the thistle and elder tops by the roadside.

The late frosts and cold drying winds of the spring months, cut off nearly all the fruit, and what few apples remained, were defective at the core, and decayed soon after being gathered in the fall. Many of the farmers sowed fields of turnips in August and September, hoping to raise winter food for their cattle, but the seed generally failed to vegetate for lack of moisture. So great was the scarcity of food for the domestic animals, that early in autumn large droves of cattle were sent into the valley of the Scioto, where the crops were more abundant, to pass the winter, while others were sent eastward into the borders of Pennsylvania. This region of country abounds in grasses, and one of the staple commodities is the produce of the dairy. Many stocks of dairy cows were broken up and dispersed, selling for only four or five dollars a head, as the cost of wintering would be more than their worth in the spring. Such great losses and suffering from the effects of drouth, has not been experienced in that portion of Ohio for many years, if at all since the settlement of the country. As the lands become more completely cleared of the forest trees, dry summers will doubtless be more frequent. In a region so near a large body of water, we should expect more rain than in one at a distance. The sky in that district is, nevertheless, much oftener covered with clouds than in the southern portion of the State, where rains are more abundant; but the dividing ridge, or height of land between Lake Erie and the waters of the Ohio, lacks a range of high hills to attract the mosture from the clouds and cause it to descend in showers of rain.

For the above account of the drouth in the 'Western Reserve,' I am under obligation to Seabury Ford, Esq., of Geauga county.

Marietta, O., Jan. 8, 1846.

The Season in Central New York---Prospect for Fruit there---Culture of the Ruta Baga.

(A LETTER FROM H. S. RANDALL.)

CORTLAND VILLAGE, N. Y., April 27.

MY DEAR SIR: The spring has opened with unusual mildness in New York. The weather has been uncommonly dry, which has greatly facilitated the seeding of lands, particularly wettish uplands. Seeding is about completed on our best and our medium soils.

I perceive by your paper, that the prospect for fruit is unpromising in Ohio, and in the western part of our own state. I have observed no unfavorable indications in this region, though we do not rear the peach, or any other but the hardy fruits here. Perhaps our apples are getting too

forward, however. For two seasons, we have lost nearly all of them from the same cause, *i. e.* getting so far advanced that they were killed by the late spring frosts.

A correspondent of yours asks the proper method of cultivating the ruta baga. I have cultivated them for years, and in nearly every way. I have received a premium or two from the State Society for large crops, and raised larger ones where I have made no application for premiums. For ten years, my largest crop has been 1020 bushels per acre — my smallest, 850 — the average, say 900. I will most readily give your correspondent the benefit of my experience.

The largest crop I have ever raised, was on stubble, plowed two or three times prior to seeding. The land was plowed very deep, with a narrow furrow slice, which, considering the number of times it was plowed, was more than equivalent to spading, so far as the pulverisation of the soil was concerned. Furrows were struck thirty inches apart, with an ordinary plow, and about sixty loads of good farm yard manure dropped *in the furrows*. The furrows were then covered by turning a furrow slice on them each way, with a small corn plow. This left a small ridge over the original furrows, which was filled with manure. These ridges were levelled down to nearly the surrounding surface, and the stones and lumps removed from them by a coarse rake, with spike nails for teeth. The seed was then drilled in on the centre of these ridges, and they were rolled down with a hand roller. For some reason or other, all the seed did not sprout well, and there were various vacant spaces, of several yards in length. The roots were thinned out to from eight to twelve inches apart. Land hoed twice; produce, 1020 bushels per acre, not by taking the produce of a rod and *estimating*, but by actual admeasurement of the whole.* They were measured, of course, after being deprived of their tops and roots. They were remarkably uniform in size, the maximum weight being from 17 to 18 lbs, (without top or root,) the minimum from 8 to 10.

Last season my crop was about 975 bushels to the acre, though the season was unfavorable, by reason of the severe and long-continued drought; and the method of culture was not perhaps more than two-thirds as expensive as the one above described. An old meadow was carefully plowed, a short time prior to planting. My manure was prepared by being piled up in the barn yards a couple of months prior to using. It was piled in layers, and between each layer gypsum was freely applied. When carted out, it was in a semi-rotted state, not 'pasty,' but on the other hand, not ' long ' enough to clog a harrow. This was spread on the *top after plowing*, and sharp harrows incorporated it with the soil directly, as it was spread from the carts. I forgot to say a part of the land was manured with a sort of domestic poudrette.

Stones and other inequalities existing sufficiently on the soil to prevent running the light drill barrow *straight*, (and what *farmer* can endure a *crooked* row of any thing planted by him?) and fearing that the seeds might not get properly covered among the manure, I used a marker.†— The drill barrow followed in the marks. The seed was put in near the first of June. Hoed twice after cultivator, and used cultivator twice without hoeing.

I will lay down a few rules for the cultivation of this crop, and its after management, in relation to which I feel myself almost qualified to speak *ex cathedra*, having so repeatedly tried all the methods recommended by English and American writers.

If turnips are put on stubble, the land must be plowed and dragged several times (in soils like ours) to obtain sufficient mellowness, to kill out the weeds, which are otherwise an intolerable nuisance.

On the whole, it is decidedly better to plant them on an inverted sward where the cost of production is taken into account as thus the manure reaches the soil at the proper point of the rotation (of crops.)

To force forward the young plant rapidly, and thus prevent its falling a victim to the fly, it is better to apply the manure to the *surface;* and I consider the practice objectionable in no respect, if the manure is *immediately and thoroughly* incorporated with the soil by the harrow. It requires but a *thin* coating of soil to absorb the ammonia and the gasses of the manure, as all know who are at all conversant with the subject. I believe the same practice will be found preferable with Indian corn.

The seeds should be got in early,—in this climate near the first of June. Early planted roots invariably attain the greatest size, and if cut off by the fly, you have time for a second seeding. But if planted pretty thick—say from a pound to a pound and a half of seed to the acre (I prefer about 1¼ lbs.) and *forced* forward by manure on the surface, I have never known them destroyed by the fly. Soaking the seeds in curriers oil has been considered a prevention against the fly.— I have so considered it, and my statements to that effect have been published in our State Society's Transactions;—but more numersous and accurately conducted experiments have led me to doubt the correctness of my previous opinions. I have abandoned the application of the oil, or any other substance to or with the seed. Some recommend the drilling in of sulphur with the seeds. I have no confidence in it. I depend entirely upon plenty of seed, and early forcing.

Turnips should be hoed, at all events, as soon as they are in the second leaf, and sooner, if the weeds make their appearance. If the weeds are suffered to ' get the start' of the turnips—overtopping them, so that they must be pulled by hand in the rows for fear of cutting up the *unseen* turnips, it is the hardest, most vexatious, and unprofitable labor in the world to manage the crop. Experience, you know, is a capital instructor, though the *tuition* sometimes comes rather *high!* I have *feeling* recollections on this point! To your correspondent, and to all others 'to whom these presents shall come,' I would emphatically say that an *early first hoeing* is what the lawyers would call a *sine qua non* in turnip culture. If in second leaf, thin them out at the first hoeing. If not, and particularly if the fly has commenced its attacks, defer it for a few days. When thinned, cut through the thick row of plants with the hoe; leave a little bunch; cut through again, and so on. From these little bunches pull all the roots but one with the fingers. The cultivator is always used prior to hoeing—the plow never.— The plants want no hilling up—and there should be no furrows made between them. The second hoeing should take place, when the weeds are small. Two hoeings, if thoroughly done, usually suffice. It is well to give them a subsequent dressing or two with the cultivator, but not after the tops get long enough to be much broken in the operation.

Now for harvesting: I have tried nearly every conceivable method—keeping an account of the cost. I have cut the tops off with a hoe, having the roots subsequently pulled with a turnip hook. This makes it slow and unhandy to pick up the turnips to cut off the roots; and if this latter operation is performed with the hoe on the ground, it is done in a slovenly and imperfect manner. I have had them pulled by hand and thrown into heaps. It is very hard work to pull them by hand, especially if grown on green sward. Latterly, I have had one man pull them with a turnip hook; another follows him, who clutches one or two of them by their tops with each hand, strikes them together two or three times, to shake out the dirt from the large spreading roots,* places two rows together, with the roots the same way; and the next two rows close to them, with the roots pointing inward (towards the roots of the previous two rows.) Two men follow along this "swath," each armed with a heavy-bladed knife, (somewhat heavier than a carving-knife.) The turnip is clutched by the top, and the roots severed with one or more blows. It is then tossed so as to catch the bulb on the hand—with the top turned, or reversed—and this is severed at a blow, and the bulb cast forward into a heap. Two men follow with a wagon, picking up and carrying off the roots. Six men and a span of horses, will, if the turnip house is near and convenient, and the crop good, secure 600 bushels of roots per day. A boy should follow the "swaths," armed with a pitchfork, and throw together the unwilted tops, into little cocks, which will keep good in that condition to feed out for a month or two.

I have discovered, this last season, one "crowning" improvement on this process: I obtained one of Ruggles & Mason's subsoil plows, of A. B. Allen, Esq., at the last State Fair; and, arranging the clevis so as to let the landside pass a little to the left of the turnips in the row, I found the share would lift the turnips out of their beds, letting them settle back, standing up, so that the tops were not even soiled! A span of horses can thus be made to pull the turnips as fast as they can walk over the rows. (This I claim as my own discovery.) N. B. Turnips should be harvested in dry weather.

A word about storing—for here has been much trouble and disappointment: They must *not* be put in tight cellars, covered with dwelling houses or barns—that is, not in large quantities; if so, they will sweat and heat, and the stench under a dwelling house, will become intolerable. The only good place for storing them I have ever tried, (leaving them convenient of access during the winter,) is a cellar excavated about 3½ feet, and say 14 feet wide, (of any length,) the sides walled up to the surface of the ground, and then plates, rafters, and roof, like those of any other building, above ground. The roof is covered with dirt, to prevent freezing. In one end is a door, to which you descend by two or three steps; in the other, a window above the ground.

The turnips are rolled down a trough, through the window or door, from the side of the wagon; so but few, comparatively speaking, have to be carried in, in baskets, after the cellar is nearly filled.

The turnips are harvested, in this region, from the 1st to the 15th of November. Placed in the cellar I have described, the window and door are left open for the air to circulate through, until cold weather sets in. I am now daily feeding out bushels of them, as sound and sweet as when dug, kept in such a cellar; and they will continue so a month or more longer.

I thought to say all I wished on this subject, in two or three paragraphs; but I have unconsciously emulated the limits of an essay.

Yours, truly,

HENRY S. RANDALL.

Culture of Potatoes—Use of Straw.

Mr. BATEHAM:—It is common, through Ohio, to thrash the crop of wheat in the field where it grows, and to leave the straw in a shapeless pile to waste—waste, because it soon becomes unfit for feed; and as it slowly rots, much of it flies off in the air, and thus makes but little manure, and that little weak and almost worthless. I have been in the practice of taking this straw, and after dropping potatoes (cut, moistened, and rolled in lime) over the ground—and it is but little difference whether the ground is plowed or not—I have tried both ways, but perhaps not enough to decide which is best; but I know both are good—then cover the potatoes, 6 or 7 inches thick with straw; and there is generally but little else to do but to gather and use them, as they neither want or admit of cultivation, except a few large weeds, that can be easily pulled up. This mode I have found a good way to use waste, unrotted straw, stalks, &c. It requires but little labor, and I have found it to produce a better crop than the old laborious way. The potatoes are also of good quality, and are remarkably easy harvested, and the ground is left in first rate order for any succeeding crop.

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* The produce is sometimes given in *tons*. Dirt always adheres to them, and the produce is not, therefore, accurately ascertained by weight. Neither should they be measured in a basket, but in the body of a wagon or cart.

† To wit: a scantling with thills to be drawn by a horse—handles to regulate it by, and five teeth 30 inches apart, rounded bottoms 3 inches across. Each ' bout' one tooth runs in the outside mark or furrow of the previous ' bout,' so that if skillfully done, the whole field is marked *straightly* and uniformily.

* I have *read* of ruta bagas with smooth, round bulbs, and only a single top root; but I never raised any such, where they grew *vigorously and large*.

In conversing with an intelligent farmer upon this subject, a few days ago, he informed me that he fed a large flock of sheep on ground he had raised potatoes on the summer previous, and that during the winter, he had carried out some five or six inches of straw and hay, upon which the sheep fed and slept; and in the spring, a crop of volunteer potatoes came up, which he let grow, and had an excellent crop, without the trouble of doing any thing more than picking them up. He said he had always credited the sheep dung for the crop; but I considered the largest share of credit was due to the straw and hay. There is a great deal of this kind of waste in this state. There are farms in my neighborhood that have now three crops of straw going to waste in this way; and the straw is not the only loss: a considerable piece of ground which the straw lies on, is also lost for some three or four years; for when the field is cultivated, the pile of straw is generally as carefully avoided as if it was a pile of stones; and if in pasture, it produces no grass; and thus, what could and should be used to advantage, is a nuisance.

JOHN B. BAYLESS.

Portland, Jefferson co., O., May, 1846.

More Trees Injured by Coal Tar.

MR. BATEHAM:—I read in the last Cultivator, an article on the application of Coal Tar to fruit trees, I too, upon the unqualified recommendation of Mr Downing, tried it upon about 300 trees, supposing it was also effectual in keeping the worm from the Peach tree. I took out the worms that were in the trees last fall, and applied it with a brush about a foot from the ground down, and also on the top of the roots that were bared and then covered them up. One of my peach orchards of 75 trees has a southern exposure and having been cultivated the trees were very large and thrifty. I found early in the spring that 5 were dead, being absolutely burnt to death, and I shall probably lose 5 or 10 more. I immediately went to work to save them if possible by scraping the tar off as well as I could, cutting out all the dead bark, and applying a wash composed of ½ bushel of fresh cow dung, ½ bushel of yellow clay, and ½ peck of lime, covering the tar completely, and I think saving nearly all of them in that way.—The peach orchard (75 trees,) with a northern exposure is injured, but not to so great an extent and but one tree has yet died. I applied it to my apple and pear trees to keep the rabbits off, and they are nearly all a little injured, but a few have died, but had the tar remained until the hot sun came upon them in April, I believe two-thirds would have been destroyed. The great error Mr. Downing has committed has been in recommending it unqualified, as the sun has more power here than further north owing to the sudden changes, and where the trees in the fall (on last fall) had the sap frozen in the tree before it descended, the parts of my trees *under ground* that the tar was applied to did not suffer at all.

The application of coal tar in the following manner, has been tried in this vicinity and proved entirely successful against the Ægeria (peach worm) viz; One bushel of fresh cow dung, one bushel of clay, and one gallon of coal tar, made into a wash and applied with a brush.

Should you deem the above worthy of publication, you can insert it in the Cultivator; and it may induce others to give their experiments. I will let yon know the final result in the fall.

Respectfully,

W. RESOR.

Greendale, (near Cin.) O., May 5th 1846.

Strawberry Plants.

The editor of the Springfield Republic, after noticing the chapter on strawberry blossoms in our last number, says:

"Last fall we had a square of thirty feet in strawberries; but as the location was not good, we broke up one half of the ground, and transplanted the most thrifty plants. The half of the old bed remaining and the new bed, are now in full bloom—the old bed is altogether pistillate, or female; the new bed is as exclusively staminate, or male! We do not understand this result."

We have observed several cases of a similar kind, and the explanation is this: The plants bearing staminate flowers are always more thrifty in appearance than those bearing pistillate flowers; hence, by taking the 'most thrifty plants' from the old bed, he very naturally took only the staminate ones, and formed his new bed of these alone, leaving the old bed as exclusively the other kind. This is a matter that should be understood by every cultivator of this fruit. It should be stated, however, that only certain varieties (among which are Hovey's and Hudson's) are thus dicœcious in their character.

OHIO CULTIVATOR.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, MAY 15, 1846.

The Weather for the first ten days of this month, was quite rainy, saturating the ground in this region more completely with moisture than for a whole year past. This has given us a wonderful growth of grass and wheat — the latter is in danger of being too rank. Corn planting, which was just commenced previous to the rains, is now busily progressing, on soils not too retentive of moisture; the past five days having been fine drying weather. One or two very slight frosts occurred after the rain, but did no perceptible injury. Fruit of all kinds has set finely, and gives promise of abundance — excepting that the curculios are too busily at work on the plums, and apricots, &c.

OUR SUMMER RAMBLES. — We are grateful for the numerous kind invitations that have been extended to us, to visit different parts of the State in our proposed travels this summer; though we fear it will not be possible for us to comply with many of them. Owing to hindrance by the rains, we shall not be able to leave home much if any before the first of June.

☞ Numerous inquiries, and other communications are still on hand waiting for time and space. Correspondents must not grow impatient, we will catch up with them after a while.

An Apology, is due from us to the editor of the Springfield Republic, for the implied censure contained in our last. He states that our reply alluded to was copied into his paper — this we did not see therein or we should not have complained.

A good suggestion. — In the last number of the Western Reserve Magazine of Agriculture, &c., (a plague to such *long names!*) the editor suggests that the farmers of Ohio should have a State exhibition next fall, say in September. We heartily approve of the plan, provided there is spirit enough manifested by the farmers and friends of improvement to secure hearty co-operation. — Of this we shall be better able to form an opinion in a month or two, in the mean time, let those who are in favor of a State Fair speak out on the subject. It was proposed by the State Board of Agriculture last winter.

Inquiries, &c.

Grape Culture.—J. C. T. (Marion Co.) wishes to know whether, in cultivating a few grapes for family use it is best to adopt the vineyard method of close pruning, or the more common one of training them on a frame or trellis, with a comparatively slight pruning each year.

We think the former method would be found the most profitable. Will some of our correspondents who have seen or tried both methods, please answer the question.

Brick for Cellar walls. — A. N., (Coshocton co.) inquires whether brick will answer as well as stone for cellar walls, and other damp situations.

We asked the question of an experienced builder, of this city, and he answered, '*yes*, if the brick are of good quality and well laid in good mortar.' This accords with our own observation.

Coal Ashes as Manure. — R. L. (Stark Co.) desires information respecting the value of stone coal ashes as manure — the kind of soil and crops to which it is best adapted, &c.

Some of our readers have tried experiments with these ashes, and the results in some, if not all cases, were highly beneficial. We wish they would answer the inquiry. In the mean time, R. L. can hardly go amiss in applying coal ashes to grass, clover or wheat, especially on sandy soils, and where there is probably a deficiency of lime and its compounds.

Plowing clover for wheat. — Several inquiries have been received respecting the time and manner of turning in clover as a preparation for wheat — whether it may be mown early in the season, or how late pastured, whether more than one plowing is required, &c. Wheat farmers will please answer.

Growing Oysters in Ohio! — L. H., of Muskingum county inquires whether oysters might not be produced in artificial ponds or lakes of water supplied by the salt springs of that region. He wishes particularly to know whether suitable food for the *critters* could be produced, and of what strength the water should be.

We think L. H. will find it a difficult matter to raise a crop of oysters in a Muskingum salt pond, unless he can contrive to make a better imitation of an ocean bay than we suppose he can do. In addition to the rocky beds and the peculiar deposites of marine vegetation, we apprehend he will need a substitute for the tide and ocean currents, to impart health and vigor to the crop.

We believe it is not known that the oyster takes any other food than salt water; but sea water differs somewhat from that obtained from salt wells in this country, in the number and character of the chemical elements it contains in solution. The strength of sea water is, on an average from 3 to 4 per cent. (by weight) of salt.

Letter from Mr Brown of Hamilton.

DOGS, SHEEP AND POLITICIANS.

We should have mentioned in our last, that we had received a letter from Mr Israel Brown, with a request for its publication, complaining of the remarks made by us in connection with his name, when speaking of the destruction of sheep by dogs, and the conduct of our legislators in relation thereto, in our papers of March 1st and 15th. We have never cherished any other than friendly feelings towards Mr Brown, but we cannot consent to insert his communication in our columns, nor would we do so had it come from any other person, though he might claim to be our warmest friend. The reasons we will briefly state: In the first place the writer sets out with the accusation that our remarks were prompted by personal or party prejudice; than which nothing can be more untrue, nor can such an inference be fairly drawn from our language—indeed the supposition is rendered ridiculous by the fact that we spoke of a member of the *opposite* political party, (Mr Ball) at the same time and in the same manner, and he too accused us of being influenced by party feelings! But this is not the first time we have given offence to members of both parties at once; nor will it probably be the last, so long as certain men can only see things through *party* glasses.

Our second objection is, Mr Brown has seen fit to weave into his communication a number of party phrases and allusions which he is well aware would give offence to those of our readers who differ with him in politics. This of course we cannot allow.

Mr Brown justifies the opposition of the representatives from Hamilton county to the dog tax, and other agricultural bills, on the ground that no such laws are wanted by their constituents. We have never disputed the validity of this excuse; and in our remarks on the subject we only aimed to mention facts, without intending to convey censure, or impugn motives. We did think it a little singular, however, that Mr Brown himself should write us a letter last winter inquiring what the Legislature was doing for the protection of sheep from dogs, and alluding in expressive language to the painful scenes of carnage he had recently witnessed in his own neighborhood! The contrast between that letter and the present one seems as great as that between Mr Brown the *farmer*, and Mr Brown the *politician*.

In proof of the asumption that a law for imposing a tax on dogs is not desired by the people of Hamilton county, Mr Brown informs us that a law for that purpose was enacted by the legislature some 20 years ago, to apply to the counties of Hamilton and Warren, and that it has never been enforced, although unrepealed to this day. — This was indeed news to us, and we doubt whether one half of the people of those counties at the present time, know there is any such law in existence. We have seen it published in a recent number of the Lebanon Star.

Men are sometimes accused of pride, simply because their accusers would be proud themselves if they were in their places.

☞ Never be caught napping, except in the night time.

Clark County Ag. Society.

At a meeting of farmers and friends of agricultural improvement, at Springfield, IRA PAIGE was called to the chair, and WILLIAM WHITELY appointed Secretary.

After a free consultation, it was

Resolved, That we proceed to re-organize the Clark County Agricultural Society under the new law.

Resolved, That Ira Paige, B. B. Browning, Wm. Whiteley, Jacob Wolf, J. R. Miller, and E. H. Cumming, be appointed a committee to confer with members of the recent agricultural meeting at S. Charleston, as to the propriety of organizing a District Society, or combining the County Societies.

S. G. Moler, W. M. Spencer, Wm. Whiteley, A. Gowdy, and J. M. Gallagher, were appointed a committee to revise the Constitution and By-Laws.

Mr George Stickney was appointed a committee to solicit subscribers to the Constitution.

Ordered, That the proceedings be published in the Republic.

The meeting then adjourned, to meet at the Buckeye House, on Saturday, the 16th inst., at 1 o'clock, P. M.

Lorain County.

In compliance with the call of the County Board of Agriculture, a good number of farmers and others assembled at the Court House in Elyria, Wednesday, April 29

On motion, the Hon. Josiah Harris was called to the Chair, and N. S. Townshend appointed Secretary.

The object of the meeting was then briefly stated by the Secretary, and the recent act of the Ohio Legislature relating to Agricultural Societies, with the proceedings of the State Agricultural Board were read.

After remarks by the Hon. D. T. Baldwin, Dr. Hubbard and others, it was resolved to proceed immediately to the organization of a County Society, in accordance with the rules and regulations recommended by the State Board.

On motion, an enrollment was made, to ascertain if a sufficient number of persons desirous of associating themselves as a County Agricultural Society were present, and if a sufficient sum could be raised to meet the provisions of the 'Act,' whereupon, 58 names were enrolled, and $80 subscribed.

On motion, Dr. Hubbard, Capt. Redington, A. Beebe, George Sibley, Ransom Gibbs, Jonas Jones, and Edwin Byington, were constituted a committee to nominate candidates to fill the offices of the Society.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the nominating committee, the following gentlemen were unanimously elected, and now constitute the Board of Directors for the ensuing year.

JOSEPH SWIFT, Pres't.
DANIEL B. KINNEY, V. Pres't.
ARTEMAS BEEBE, Treas'r.
A. H. REDINGTON, Sec'y.

HENRY TRACY,
GEO. SIBLEY.
E. BYINGTON,
T. D. BALDWIN,
S. W. OSBORNE,
} *Managers.*

Jefferson County.

We find the following notice in the Steubenville Herald:

To the Agricultural Society and Farmers of Jefferson County.—As the State Board of Agriculture have formed a Constitution for the County Agricultural Societies of the State, and if the existing Societies wish to avail themselves of the State law, they should adopt it for their government: and for the purpose of having the sense of the friends of agricultural improvement upon this subject, as well as upon the general interests of agriculture, a meeting of the existing society, and all persons friendly to its welfare, is requested to be held at the Court House, in Steubenville, on the third Wednesday of May, (20th,) at 11 o'clock, at which time and place the subject of a new organization of the Society, and all other subjects connected with its welfare, will come under consideration. It is hoped the importance of the subject will bring out a large attendance.

JOHN B. BAYLESS.
May 6, 1846. *Pres't of the present Society*

Montgomery County Ag. Society —We should have mentioned last month, that this society has published its list of premiums to be awarded next fall, and the time for the Fair is fixed for the 22d and 23d of October next.

Highland County Ag. Society.--- Board of Managers, meet at the Court House, May 16th, to hear reports from township committes, &c.,

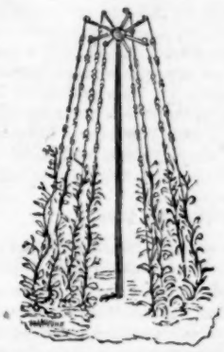
Trumbull County.---Public meeting at the Court House in Warren, May 16th, to organize, &c.

The Portage County Ag. Society, have already published their list of premiums for next fall; and a liberal list it is, especially considering the short crops of the past year, and the consequent scarcity of funds in that region. The aggregate amount offered is about $225, besides diplomas, and a number of volumes of the *Ohio Cultivator*. R. J. Thomson, is President of the society, and A. Servoss, Secretary.

☞ Send on your notices, gentlemen.

Franklin County. — We have waited thus long to see whether any of the farmers of this county would move, in the matter of forming an Agricultural Society. Two or three have made inquiry on the subject, and for fear that others may be waiting for us to broach the matter, we will suggest that all those who desire the formation of a society, and are willing to co-operate in sustaining one, send or give in their names at the office of this paper, that we may know how many there are, and publish a call for a meeting if the number is sufficient.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.



Trellis for Climbing Flowers.

The above engraving, copied from Mrs. Loudon's Companion to the Flower Garden, represents a very pretty support for such climbing plants as the Cypress Vine, varieties of Ipomea Maurandia, &c. The form is not new in this country, but may be to many of our readers. It is formed of a central staff, say six to eight feet high, with a cap of cross-pieces on the top, having eight or ten arms projecting say six to twelve inches, according to fancy, or the size desired. From the ends of these pieces, chains made of links of wire, (like a surveyor's chain,) descend to, and are fastened by hooked pegs in the ground, placed in a circle three to six feet in diameter, (according to the height of the desired cone or pyramid.) We frequently see strong twine used instead of wire chains, but they contract so much in wet weather as to sometimes pull up the plants by the roots, or become too slack when dry. Perhaps some of our readers can inform us how to prepare twine so as to avoid this evil.—We have seen the end attained by making the cap piece to which the arms are attached, movable on the top of the central staff, and held in its place by a spiral wire spring, which allowed it to descend three or four inches when the strings contracted, and rise again when they relaxed.

Pictures of Rural Life, No. 1.

THE FARMER.

THE monarch of the soil, whose stalwart arm,
And skill sublime, has conquered e'en the earth,
And forced the mother of us all to yield the birth
Of rosy fruit, and golden grain, and flow'rs,
And won both plenty and primeval hours,
In his own Paradise to soothe and charm!

The happy peasant in the cot is he!
How humble, yet how great, and wise, and pure!
He talks with GOD at *Nature's* leafy door,
And gets his answer from each clod and bloom,
His heavenly watchword for the coming tomb,
His passport to a blest eternity!
Oh far from envy and ensnaring strife,
How high his aim, how blest the farmers life!

ROBERT E. H. LEVERING.

CIRCLEVILLE, O., May, 1846.

Remarks on Cooking Vegetables.

There is nothing in which the difference between an elegant and an ordinary table is more perceptible, than in the dressing of vegetables. The articles may be equally fine as to quality when brought from the garden or the market, but their look and taste when on the table are very different, owing to the difference in the manner of cooking. Vegetables are in greatest perfection, when most plenty; that is, in full season. By full season, I do not mean those early days, when luxury and avarice, force the vegetables; but that time of the year in which by nature and common culture they are most plenty and in greatest perfection. As a general rule, vegetables of a medium size are preferred to the largest or the smallest. They are most tender, juicy, and full of flavor, just before they are full grown. To boil them in soft water will preserve the color best of such as are green; if you have only hard water, put to it a teaspoon-full of salaratus. This branch of cookery requires the most vigilant attention. If vegetables are a minute or two too long over the fire, they lose all their beauty and flavor.

GREEN PEAS.—Put your sauce pan on the fire half full of water; when it boils, put the peas in, with a table spoon-full of salt, let them boil till they are done; that is, from twenty to thirty minutes, according to their age; then drain them in a colander, put them in a deep dish and pour melted butter over them.

As young chickens and peas usually make their appearance at the same time, I will here give directions for making one of the most delicate soups that can be made:—Take the trimmings of the chickens, which consist of the giblets neck and feet; put them in a soup pot with a little salt; shell the peas putting the youngest aside, and the oldest in the soup; boil the youngest alone, and when you put some chopt parsley, onion, a sprig of thyme a piece of butter the size of a walnut, rubbed in flour, put the young peas in; toast some bread, cut in sippits,* lay them in the tureen, pour half a pint of cream over it, dish the soup, and send to table. This is a delicious soup within the reach of almost every one. I once heard a gentleman observe after eating it, he wished his throat a mile long, and every inch a palate!

RHUBARB.—Prepare the rhubarb in this way: peel and cut in small peices, give it a boil up, in a sauspan, sweeten with moist sugar, cover with a good short crust, bake for half an hour in rather a hot oven, sift sugar over and serve cold.

A VIRGINIAN.

May, 1846.

☞ We should be pleased if 'A Virginian' would include the varieties of fruit in her notices with vegetables, as they succesively come in season. — ED.

* This word, *sippits*, we apprehend will puzzle some of our readers. — ED.

MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT.

On the Mechanic Powers.

From Lardner's Popular Lectures on Science and Art: copied by the permission of the publishers.

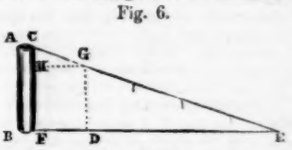
Continued from page 70.

THE INCLINED PLANE, WEDGE AND SCREW.

When a road directly ascends the side of a hill, it is to be considered as an inclined plane; but it will not lose its mechanical character, if, instead of directly ascending toward the top of the hill, it winds successively round it, and gradually ascends, so as, after several revolutions, to reach the top. In the same manner a path may be conceived to surround a pillar, by which the ascent may be facilited upon the principle of the inclined plain. Winding stairs constructed in the interior of great columns partake of this character; for although the ascent be produced by successive steps, yet if a floor could be made sufficiently rough to prevent the feet from slipping, the ascent would be accomplished with equal facility. In such a case, the winding path would be equivalent to an inclined plane, bent into such a form as to accommodate it to the peculiar circumstances in which it would be required to be used. It will not be difficult to trace the resemblance between such an adaption of the inclined plane, and the appearances presented by the thread of a *screw;* and it may hence be easily understood that a screw is nothing more than an inclined plane constructed upon the surface of a cylinder.

This will perhaps be more apparent by the following contrivance: Let A B, fig. 6, be a common round ruler,

Fig. 6.



and let C D E be a piece of white paper cut in the form of an inclined plane, whose height C D is equal to the length of the ruler A B, and let the edge C E of the paper be marked with a broad black line: let the edge C D be applied to the ruler A B, and, being attached thereto let

Fig. 7.

the paper be rolled round the ruler; the ruler will then present the appearance of a screw, fig. 7, the thread of the screw being marked by the black line C E, winding continually round the ruler. Let D F, fig. 6, be equal to the

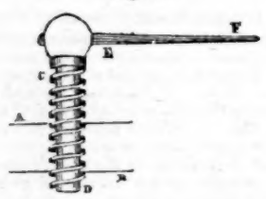
circumference of the ruler, and draw F G parallel to D C, and G H parallel to D E, the part C G F D of the paper will exactly surround the ruler once; the part C G will form one spire of the thread, and may be considered as the length of one inclined plane surrounding the cylinder, C H being the corresponding height, and G H the base.—The power of the screw does not, as in the ordinary cases of the inclined plane, act parallel to the plane or thread, but at right angles to the length of the cylinder A B, or, what is to the same effect, parallel to the base H G; therefore the proportion of the power to the weight will be, according to principles already explained, the same as that of C H to the space through which the power moves parallel to H G in one revolution of the screw. H C is evidently the distance between the successive positions of the thread as it winds round the cylinder; and it appears, from what has been just stated, that the less this distance is, or, in other words, the finer the thread is, the more powerful the machine will be.

In the applicatioa of the screw, the weight or resistance is not, as in the inclined plane and wedge, placed upon the surface of the plane thread. The power is usually transmitted by causing the screw to move in a concave cylinder, on the interior surface of which a spiral cavity is cut corresponding exactly to the thread of the screw, and in which the thread will move by turning round the screw continually in the same direction. This hollow cylinder is usually called the *nut* or *concave screw.*

Fig. 8.

The screw surrounded by its spiral thread is represented in fig. 8; and a section of the same playing in the nut is represented in fig 9.

Fig. 9.



There is several ways in which the effect of the power may be conveyed to the resistance by this apparatus.

First, let us suppose that the nut A B is fixed. If the screw be continually turned on its axis, by a lever E F inserted in one end of it, it will be moved in the direction C D, advancing every revolution through a space equal to the distance between two continuous threads. By turning the lever in an opposite direction, the screw will be moved in the direction D C.

If the screw be fixed, so as to be incapable either of moving longitudinally or revolving on its axis, the nut A B may be turned upon the screw by a lever, and will move on the screw towards C or towards D, according to the direction in which the lever is turned.

In the former case, we have supposed the nut to be absolutely immovable, and in the latter case, the screw to be absolutely immovable. It may happen, however, that the nut, though capable of revolving, is incapable of moving longitudinally, and that the screw, though incapable of revolving, is capable of moving longitudinally. In that case, by turning the nut A B upon the screw by the lever, the screw will be urged in the direction C D or D C, according to the way in which the nut is turned.

The apparatus may, on the contrary, be so arranged, that the nut, though incapable of revolving, is capable of moving longitudinally; and the screw, though capable of revolving, is incapable of moving longitudinally. In this case, by turning the screw in the one direction, or in the other, the nut A B will be urged in the direction C D or D C.

All these various arrangements may be observed in different applications to the machine.

A screw may be cut upon a cylinder by placing the cyl-

Fig. 10.

inder in a turning lathe, and giving it a rotatory motion upon its axis. The cutting point is then presented to the cylinder, and moved in the direction of its length, at such a rate as to be carried through the distance between the intended thread, while the cylinder revolves once. The relative motions of the cutting point and the cylinder being preserved, with perfect uniformity, the thread will be cut from one end to the other. The shape of the threads may be either square, as in fig. 8, or triangular, as in fig. 10. [*Concluded in our next.*]

The Cicada, or American Locust.

Mr. Bateham: In your last paper you request me to communicate something on the natural history of the American Locust, (cicada) which has now for a long time attracted the attention of naturalists. I find in the 18th vol., p. 47, of Silliman's Journal, so full and interesting an account of this insect, by an able naturalist of this state, Dr. Hildreth, that I respectfully refer you to that work; and as it appears most probable that the locust will make its appearance in considerable numbers the present season, over a large extent of territory, I would advise a diligent and careful study of their habits, and that the facts be sent to the Ohio Cultivator for record.

Yours, J. Sullivant.

Columbus, May 11, 1846.

Observations on the American Cicada, or Locust:
By Dr. S. P. Hildreth, [*Of Marietta, O.*]

'No part of natural history more abounds in wonderful and extraordinary productions, than that portion of it embraced in the study of Entomology. Whether we consider the number and variety of insects, or the curious changes they undergo in the progress of their existence, we are led to admire not only their elegant forms and beautiful colors, but also the harmony and order which attends all the operations of nature.—Amongst this numerous class, none excites the wonder and admiration of man more than the cicada septemdecem, [locust.] The regularity with which they return at the expiration of seventeen years, their simultaneous appearance over a vast extent of country, and the countless myriads of their numbers, equally arrest our attention. They have made their appearance at Marietta, Ohio, at three different periods, since its first settlement, viz: in the year 1795; again in 1812; and now in 1829. [Add 17 years and we have 1846.—*Ed. O. C.*] With us they have commenced their ascent from the earth the last of May and first days of June, and disappear the beginning of July, two or three days earlier or later, according to the temperature of the season.

'The month of May, this season, was very warm, and the cicada made their appearance rather earlier than heretofore. By the 15th of this month, they had risen so near to the surface of the earth, that the depth of a common furrow in plowing, turned them out in their chrysaloid state. By the 24th, they had begun to arise from the earth, burst their transparent covering, and expand their wings. From this time to the 10th of June, their numbers daily increased, until woodlands and orchards were filled with countless multitudes. A continual singing or scream was kept up by the males, from sunrise till evening, and so loud that in a calm morning the sound was heard a full mile. For this purpose the male is furnished with an air bladder under the axillæ, of a pale blue color, as represented in the figure; the females make no noise. They appeared only in situations which were covered with trees, as was the fact when they were here in 1812; thereby proving that they had not wandered far in their journey of seventeen years. The earth was perforated like a riddle, with holes about a third of an inch in diameter. In an orchard in this town, I counted twenty five holes on a foot square, and an intelligent acquaintance told me that, in his neighborhood, he had seen more than double that number in the same space. Where trees were not near each other, the ground underneath them was covered with their skins, or cast-off robes, to the depth of two or three inches. These shells retain the exact figure of the insect when it leaves the earth, with a rent on the back, through which the cicada creeps as from a coat of mail, and are firmly fastened by the feet to the bark and twigs of trees and bushes, until they are thrown down by the winds or rain. Instinct leading them to seek the nearest tree, bush, or post, as soon as they leave the earth; here they remain until they have left their shells for some hours, or until their wings are dry and sufficiently strong for flying. There appeared to be two varieties of the cicada, one much smaller than the other. There was also a striking difference in their notes, The smaller variety were more common in the bottom lands, and the larger in the hills. A continual scream was kept up by the males during the day, but they were silent through the night. Their flight was short, seldom exceeding eight or ten rods, and their whole lives appeared to be spent near the place of their nativity. I could not discover that they made use of any food; they certainly eat no leaves of trees or plants, as they are not furnished with jaws or teeth. They have a hard and sharp proboscis, about two lines in length, which is generally compressed closely to the thorax: this I have seen inserted in the smooth bark of young trees, and when driven from the spot, a drop of juice issued from the puncture: they would, also, when disturbed, throw out a small jet of thin watery liquid, as if in self-defence. From their being unprovided with organs for eating, it would seem that their whole business during their short visit to the surface of the earth, was to propogate their species and to die. While here, they served for food for all carnivorous and insect-eating animals. Hogs eat them in preference to any other food; squirrels, birds, domestic fowls, &c., fattened on them. So much were they attracted by the cicada, that very few birds were seen around our gardens during their continuance, and our cherries, &c., remained unmolested. By the fourth or fifth day after their leaving the earth, the female began to deposit her eggs in the tender branches of most kinds of orchard and forest trees. She generally selected the wood of last years' growth, and commenced her task on the under side of the twig, by slitting the bark with her puncturing instrument, which embraced the properties both of a saw and a punch, the point being lancet-shaped and serrated, and then making a hole in an oblique direction to the pith of the branch, she withdrew the instrument a little way, and deposited an egg through a tube in the punch.—This was repeated until from ten to twenty eggs were deposited on each side of the center of the pith, the center wood having been previously comminuted and cut up, so as to make a soft bed for the eggs, and to afford food for the embryo until it hatched. There was daily an evident increase in the size of the eggs, until they were hatched, and an evident diminution of the comminuted woody fibres and enlargement of the cells containing the eggs, so that they must have derived some sustenance from the juices of the twig. Another proof that they did so, was, that the eggs invariably perished in those branches which withered and dried up soon after the punctures were made. This work continued from day to day, until the female had expended her stock of eggs, which, so far as I could ascertain, amounted to about one thousand. When this operation was completed, the object of her existence seemed to be fulfilled, and in a few days she dwindled away and died. The whole period of the life of a single individual, from her leaving the earth to her death, averaged from twenty to twenty five days. The life of the male continued for nearly the same time. When the cicada first leave the earth, they are plump and full of oily juices, so much so that they were made use of in the manufacture of soap; but before their death they were dried up to mere shells; and I have seen them still able to fly a few feet, after one half of the body was wasted away, and nothing remained but the head, wings, and thorax. From the time the eggs were deposited to the period of hatching, was, as nearly as could be ascertained, sixty days, and almost daily attention was given to the subject. When first placed in the twigs, the eggs are about the sixteenth of an inch in length and the thickness of a coarse hair, appearing through a small magnifying glass of the shape and size of a grain of rye. At the period of hstching, they had increased about one third in size. They are white and transparent, with a black spot on the larger

end, just before hatching. They are placed very closely by the side of each other, in an oblique direction to the line of the twig. Several portions of the branch of an apple tree, full of eggs ready to hatch, were placed on a bowl of earth, with a glass tumbler inverted over them, in the afternoon. By morning nearly a hundred young cicada were found in the earth, and a few on the surface, who had just left their woody cells.—They were about a twelfth of an inch in length, with the exact shape, color, and appearance of the parent when she first comes to the air, and before bursting the transparent shell which covered her while in her terrene abode. From the fact that the young ones immediately seek a retreat in the earth, I am led to believe that these insects are tenants of the ground for seventeen years, and until He who created them again calls them forth to propagate their kind, to fulfil their destiny and die. As to their extent, so far as I can ascertain, they covered the woody regions from beyond the shores of the Mississippi, to the heads of the Ohio river, embracing the states of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and the western parts of Pennsylvania.'

Staggers in Sheep - Inquiry.

Mr. BATEHAM:—Can you inform me of any remedy for the disease here called 'Staggers in sheep'! It is an affection of the brain; the animal turns round and round, lies down helpless, and soon dies. I have lost 8 or 9 ewes this spring, out of a small flock in good condition, by this malady. On one ewe I made an experiment—knowing that she must die if let alone—I thrust a knitting-needle at random, (but not forcibly,) up each nostril—it was followed by an immediate discharge of blood and water. The animal survived, and is now apparently quite recovered. Perhaps some of your correspondents may be able to inform us how to remedy or prevent this disease. Truly Yours, &c.

E. W. S.

East Euclid, Cuyahoga co., O.

Remarks.—The disease called *staggers* in sheep, is caused by living *animalculæ* (*Hydatids*) in the brain or its linings; hence we should doubt whether the remedy suggested by the experiment of E. W. S. would be of any avail, excepting, perhaps, as a temporary relief. We are inclined to suspect that the disease in his sheep, was not Staggers, but *Hydrocephalus*, or water in the head; though this disease, we believe, is not common in this country, and is generally confined to lambs. The following extracts from Morrell's work, gives the best information on this subject that we possess:—[ED. O. CULT.

STURDY, OR STAGGERS.

This disease is not of frequent occurrence in the United States, but very common in Great Britain. It is caused by Hydatids or Blobs. These are animals, generally pear-shaped, found in various animals where they are parasitic, and resembling a visicle or bladder filled with water. It was for a long time doubted whether they had an independent existence; but as they have evidently a voluntary motion, and as they have the property of acting on matter in such a way as to convert it into a substance like that which constitutes the agent, (which, according to Roget, demonstrates a vital power,) there is no reason to doubt it has a distinct animal existance. Hydatids occur sometimes in man, but more frequently in animals. In hogs, it causes the measels; in sheep, in the brain, they cause the staggers, and in the liver, the rot.

In England, according to Mr. Youatt, this disease is nearly always confined to sheep from six to twelve months old; after that period, sheep seem to have acquired an immunity from the attack of the hydatid.

The symptoms are as follows:—"The sheep cease to gambol with their companions—they are dull—they scarcely graze; they ruminate in the most languid and listless manner; they separate themselves from the rest of the flock; they walk in a peculiar staggering, vacillating way; they seem at times to be unconscious where they are, or they seek some ditch or brook, and there stand until they appear to be completely giddy, and suddenly tumble in. In the midst of their grazing, they stop all at once, look wildly around, as if they were frightened by some imaginary object, and start away and gallop at full speed over the field. They loose flesh; the countenance becomes haggard; they eye wanders, and assumes a singular blue color. This last circumstance, although not observed so carefully as it ought to be, is perfectly characteristic of the disease; and a good shepherd would select every *sturdied* sheep from the flock, guided simply by the color of the eyes.

By and bye, the sturdied sheep commences a rotary motion, even while grazing, and always in one way, and with the head on the same side. When this occurs, he almost ceases to eat or to *ruminate*, (chew the cud,) partly because the disease, from its debilitating character, destroys the appetite altogether; and also because he cannot restrain those circular motions, during which it is almost impossible to graze; but principally, because he is rapidly becoming blind. He begins to be unconscious of surrounding objects. The habit of turning round increases; he continues to form these concentric circles for an hour at a time, or until he falls; and then scrambles up again, and commences the same strange motion. At length he dies, amaciated and exhausted."

The *remedy* sometimes for hydatids, as soon as discovered, is by removal from all wet, low land, to dry pasturage. The disease, however, is rarely cured. In some desperate cases it has been effected by trepanning, and the extrication of the hydatids.

HYDROCEPHALUS, OR WATER IN THE HEAD.

This disease, it appears, is more general with young lambs, than with the adult sheep. Youatt says—"It is not confined within a cyst—it is not a portion or part of a living animal, as in the disease just treated of—but it accmulates between the two inverted membranes of the brain,—the *pia mater* and the *arachnoid coat;* or it is found within the latter; or, and more frequently, it occupies and distends the ventricle of the brain."

An English writer remarks—"Young lambs oftener die of water in the head, than the shepherd or sheep-master suspects." The *symptoms* are—a short time after birth, the appetite sometimes fails, but frequently is voracious—the bowels become relaxed, but oftener constipated; the lamb is dull and disinclined to move—staggering a little, pining gradually away almost to a skeleton; and dying occasionally before it is a month old. The disease is generally incurable. Epsom salts, with ginger and gentian, have sometimes proved efficacious. Diseases of the brain in animals, are unmanageable, and baffle the most skilful efforts for their removal.

Short Creek township Agricultural Society.

HARRISVILLE, HARRISON CO., 4th mo. 29th, '46.

FRIEND BATEHAM: In compliance with thy request, I send thee a brief statement of the proceedings of Short Creek Township Agricultural Society, at our last meeting, held on the 24th inst.

6th mo. 24th, 1846. The Society met according to adjournment; the president, John Hammond, in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

The Constitution was then read, and several new members obtained.

The committee to ascertain the amount of some of the crops of the township for the last year, reported in part, from which it appears that the average product per acre of wheat, was about 11 bushels, corn 35 do, and oats 35.

The meeting then took a recess of two hours, to examine some sheep that were produced in competition for premiums, or rather certificates of merit.

3 *O'clock.* The meeting again convened.

The president called on the members for some remarks on the subject of the rot in potatoes, which was responded to by many, giving both theory and experience. Some light was shed on the subject, but not sufficient to arrive at any definite conclusion.

Some remarks were made, showing the advantage of subsoil plowing.

Something near 100 sheep were on the ground, in competition for premiums. After spending several hours in examining them, the judges reported; and the premiums were directed to be awarded as follows:

To James McFadden, for producing the *best* buck, (over one year old,) considering form, weight of fleece, and quality of wool; bred by John McFadden.

To John McFadden, for producing the *second* best buck as above; bred, I believe, by Perkins & Brown, of Summit county.

To John Martin, for the *third* best buck as above; bred by himself.

To John Haverfield for the *finest* buck; bred by Thomas Wood, of Smithfield, Jefferson co.

To Walter B. Bebee and John McFadden, for producing each, a *second* finest buck; the former bred in Connecticut, and brought out by Wm. Ladd; the latter not recollected.

To James McFadden for the *best* yearling buck; bred by himself, I believe.

To Elnathan Pettit, for the *finest* yearling buck; bred by Vincent Mitchel, of Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson co.—from Washington county Pa. stock.

To James McFadden, for the *finest* ewe.

To Alexander M. Fadden, for the *best* yearling ewe; bred by himself, I believe.

There were many other excellent sheep present, almost equally meritorious with the above; and some very fine samples of wool, produced by Miller Gibson, from ewes which were unfit to take to the fair on account of recent lambing.

On motion of William McFadden,

Resolved, That a Convention be held in Cadiz on the last Friday of May, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of organizing an agricultural society for Harrison county.

On motion of William McFadden,

Resolved, That the sheep-growers of the county be requested to produce some of their *finest* and *best* fleeces of wool at Cadiz, on the day of the above Convention, to compete for some premiums which will be awarded at that time.

On motion of Elnathan Pettit,

Resolved, That *all* the members of this society be allowed to compete for the above premiums, (whether they reside in or out of of the county.)

Then adjourned.

E. CATTELL, *Secretary.*

Harrison County Ag. Society.

Pursuant to the provisions of an 'Act for the encouragement of Agriculture,' passed at the last session of the Legislature of Ohio, the Farmers of Harrison county, and other friends of improvement in Agriculture and the Mechanic arts, are invited to assemble at the Court House in Cadiz, Ohio, at 10 o'clock on Friday, the 29th of May, 1846, for the purpose of forming a County Agricultural Society. At this meeting the Act referred to will be presented, and it is desirable that a good attendance will take place.

WILLIAM M'FADDEN,
Member of the State Board of Agriculture.

April 30, 1846.

PREMIUMS FOR FINE WOOL.

The wool growers, of the county generally, are also invited to exhibit fleeces of their wool, at the Wool Room of the 'DOUGLASS HOUSE,' in Cadiz, at 10 o'clock. on Friday, the 29th of May—at which time the following premiums will be awarded by a Committee, who will be appointed for the purpose:

1st For the finest fleece produced from a buck, weighing not less than 2½ lbs. of clean wool, $5,00.

2d. For the finest fleece produced from a ewe, weighing not less than 2½ lbs. of clean wool, $4,00.

3d. For the finest fleece produced from a yearling lamb, weighing not less than 2 lbs. of clean wool, $3,00.

4th. For the finest fleece produced from a buck, weighing not less than 6½ lbs. of clean wool, $3,00.

5th. For the finest fleece produced from a buck, weighing not less than 8 lbs. of clean wool, $3,00.

Whitewash for a Stone or Brick Building.

Take 1 bushel of unslacked lime,
½ gallon of vinegar,
8 lbs. tallow,
8 lbs. allum,
12 lbs. salt,
4 lbs. ground rice;

slack the lime with boiling water; then, while hot from slacking, add the other ingredients, (the tallow to be melted, and the rice flour to have been dissolved in boiling water,) and stir till fully incorporated; the longer it stands the better.

Apply two coats, with a whitewash brush.

Some of the public buildings at Washington have been washed with this composition, and experience has decided it to be the most valuable of any that has ever been employed for such a purpose.—*Ex. paper.*

WOOD ASHES.—Ashes generally do best on rather light soils, and are particularly beneficial to grass, clover, and grain crops. The difference in the value of leached and unleached ashes, is not easily told. The statement of Mr. Crispell, published in our last volume, page 87, indicates that in some cases there is little or no difference. We have often been told that the Long Island

farmers consider the leached as good as the unleached, provided they are not used for some time after being leached. Some suppose they attract valuable properties from the atmosphere, after coming from the leach-tub. Is it so! and if any, what are the properties acquired? Will chemists tell? — *Albany Cultivator.*

Large Calves.

'*A Mammoth Calf.* — Mr. James M. Willis, of Bloomingburg, in this county, a few days since, slaughtered a calf, of his own raising, of the age of nine months and fourteen days. It weighed as follows:

Nett beef, - - - -	520 lbs.
Rough tallow, - - - -	50 "
Hide, - - - - - -	62 "
Total, - - - -	632 "

'An animal, of the same age, superior to this, we presums cannot be found. It was of the Durham and Patton stock, about three-fourths blood. It girted six feet six inches. We think that Fayette county may banter the state to produce its equal. If our agricultural friends in other counties of the state, have a match for the "*Mammoth Calf of Fayette,*" we should like to hear from them.'

The above is from the Fayette 'Washingtonian.' The calf was certainly a sizable one, but since we are 'bantered' to find a match for him, we will endeavor to gratify our Fayette friend.

Mr Adams Stewart, of this city, (Columbus,) has a calf that weighed, last month, when exactly nine months old, 719 punds, (live weight.)

Another. — Mr. S. Thompson, of Ravenna, has a calf which weighed 695 lbs., (live weight,) when nine months and two weeks old. It is of the Ayrshire and Hertfordshire breeds.

Samples of Wool.

We find it impossible to insert the numerous well written communications sent us of late respecting sheep and wool, without occupying too much of our columns with one subject; nor can we find time to examine, and report on, as fully as might be desired, the numerous specimens of wool sent us. It will afford us pleasure to exhibit them to any sheep farmers who may desire to see them.

Mr. CHARLES BUTTON, of Franklin Mills, Portage county, sent us, some time since, eight specimens of wool, taken from Merino sheep brought by him from Vermont, three years ago, descendants of the flock of Consul Jarvis. They are good specimens, but not quite as fine as we should wish. The weight of bucks' fleeces (washed) is six to nine pounds, and the ewes about five pounds. They must be profitable stock.

Mr. JOHN BROWN, of Akron, has sent us samples of wool from sheep owned by N. P. Atkinson, of Wheeling, Va. — two of them obtained from Mr. Jewett, of Vermont, (Merino;) others of a finer grade, bred by Mr. Atkinson, of the Wells and Dickinson variety, we should think. Also, a very beautiful sample from a ewe owned by Henry Kirtland, Esq., of Poland, Trumbull county, Ohio.

Mr. Sawyier's Agent, near Lafayette, Madison county, Ohio, has sent us a few fresh and beautiful samples of his Gaudaloup Merinos, noticed in our paper of February 15.

'*A would-be Wool Grower,*' Bethel, Clermont county, sent us, some time since, a sample of wool, which he says is from 'a full blooded Saxon buck, from a flock near that place, imported from Saxony about ten or fifteen years ago.' Also, 'that the fleeces of the flock averaged, the past year, six pounds each, in the grease.' He then asks us a number of questions, such as, 'Whether it is as fine or finer than any other specimen received by us,' &c.

At first, we threw this letter and specimen aside, supposing it was designed as a hoax; but on viewing it again, we thought the writer might possibly be in earnest, and really seeking for information. If this is the case, we would advise him to go immediately and examine the fine wooled sheep belonging to Mr. Titus, or some others that may be found in Clermont county, and he will not likely any longer believe the story about such wool as that sent us being from a full blooded Saxony sheep, nor inquire whether it is as fine as any samples we have. We can gather finer samples from the meanest flock of natives in the state! It may be, however, that his sheep are a *profitable* kind, if they produce fleeces weighing six pounds each — we will say it is not fine wool, nor is the staple strong or even.

Notices of Publications.

A TREATISE ON MILCH COWS, whereby the quality and quantity of milk which any cow will give may be accurately determined by observing natural marks, &c., &c. Translated from the French of M. Guenon, with remarks and observations, by John S. Skinner, editor of the Farmers' Library, New York. Published by Greeley & McElrath.

This curious work, which we have before noticed, has been issued in neat pamphlet form, and may be had of most booksellers. Price, 37½ cents each, or three copies may be obtained for $1, remitted to the publishers.

LARDNER'S LECTURES ON SCIENCE AND ART, part XIII, has been sent us by the publishers, Greeley & McElrath, New York. It contains the continuation of lectures on the Steam Engine, illustrated with engravings. One more number will complete this splendid work.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND ART, (Silliman's) has come to hand, laden, as usual, with rich entertainment for the lovers of Science.— Six numbers a year; price $5.

'ILLUSTRATED BOTANY,' Edited by John B. Newman, M. D., and published by G. K. Wellman, New York. This is a beautiful Monthly Magazine, designed to illustrate and popularize the delightful science of Botany. Each number contains four elegantly colored engravings, representing individual flowers, or groups of flowers. Also, a brief scientific and popular description of each plant, with remarks on its medicinal or other qualities and uses, its cultivation, &c. This work is eminently deserving of patronage. The price is only $3 per year.

THE WESTERN REVIEW.—The publishers, Messrs. C. C. & G. R. Hazewell, of this city, have presented us a copy of this work, for which they have our thanks. We have not yet found time to examine it, and being mainly political in its character, it is not likely we shall read much of it very soon, nor are we qualified to judge of its merits. It is a heavy pamphlet, of 260 pages, of very respectable appearance. Quarterly — $5 per year.

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL AND REVIEW, by L. A. Hine, Cincinnati, No. 2. The readers of our paper, for the past year, know something of Mr. Hine's quality as a thinker and writer, and we think many of them are desirous of continuing their acquaintance with him. The Review is very well got up, and offered at the low price of $1 per year; single numbers, 30 cents.

THE NEW ORLEANS COMMERCIAL TIMES. — We owe an apology to our old friend Affleck, for not sooner noticing his connection with this handsome and spirited paper, as conductor of its Agricultural Department. Many of our readers cherish the remembrance of brother A., as the former editor of the Western Farmer and Gardener, at Cincinnati. He removed from thence on to a plantation in Mississippi, where he still resides, and prosecutes his labors as a planter as well as writer.

ENGLISH NEWS dates to April 11. — We find nothing of much importance to our agricultural readers. Parliament was not in session, owing to Easter holidays. Trade in American provisions had improved a little. Flour was dull; Indian corn and meal continued to arrive freely, and was gaining favor rapidly among all classes.

THE MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, *May* 13. --- Flour has declined to 3,37 @ 3,50 ₱ bbl.; Wheat, 63 @ 65 ₱ bu.; Corn, 30@33; Oats, 25 @ 27½ Rye, 50 @ 55; Barley 65 @ 70 cts. ₱ bu. Pork remains dull; mess, 9,50 @ 9,62, prime 7,50 @ 7,75 ₱ bbl. Lard. No. 1, kegs and bbls, 5½ @ 6 cts. ₱ lb. Butter for packing, 8 @ 9 cts. Cheese for shipping, 6½ cts. ₱ lb. Eggs are in brisk demand for packing at 5½ @ 6 cts. ₱ dozen.

CLEVELAND, *May* 11. ---Little doing in the way of sales, but receipts and shipments of produce are large. Flour sells at 3,87 @ $4; mess pork 9,25 @ 9,50; salt $1, ₱ bbl.

TOLEDO, *May* 7.—We quote this day—Wheat 75 cts.; Corn 32 @ 33; Oats 22; Pork, 10,50 Mess, $8 prime; Lard, bbls, 6 @ 6½ cts.; kegs, 6½ @ 6¾ cts.; Flour 3,37 @ 3.50. — *Blade.*

BUFFALO, *May* 9. — Flour $4, wheat 81 @ 83 cts. — Corn 40 @ 42; Oats 29@30 cts., (all by boat load). Pork, mess, $10; prime 7,50 ₱ bbl.

NEW YORK, *May* 9. — Flour is firm, at 4,62½ @ 4,75; Wheat for shipment, 1,10; Corn for do., 65 @ 68 cts. wt.; Oats 32 cts. No change in provisions, nor wool.

COLUMBUS PRODUCE MARKET.

[MARKET, TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.]

Corrected for the Ohio Cultivator, May 13.

GRAIN.			
Wheat, full wt., bu.,	65	a	
Indian corn,	22	a	23
Oats,	16	a	
PROVISIONS.			
Flour retail, bbl.,	3,75	a	
" 100 lbs.	2,00	a	
" Buckwheat,	2,00	a	2,50
Indian meal, bu.	25	a	31
Hominy, quart,	3	a	4
Beef, bd. qr.			
" 100 lbs.,	3,00	a	3,50
" fore qr.,	2,00	a	2,50
Pork, mess, bbl.		a	
" prime "		a	
Hams, country, lb.,	6	a	7
" city, cured,	7	a	8
Lard, lb., ret.,	6½	a	7
" in kgs. or bls.	6	a	
Butter, best rolls,	10	a	12½
" common	9	a	10
" in kegs,	7	a	8
Cheese,	6½	a	
Eggs, dozen,	5	a	6
Maple sugar, lb.	5		6
" molasses, gal,	30		
Honey comb, lb.	10	a	12½
" strained	12½	a	14

POULTRY.			
Turkeys, each,	37	a	50
Geese, "	18	a	
Ducks, "	8	a	10
Chickens, "	8	a	10
SUNDRIES.			
Apples, bu.	1,75	a	2,00
" dried,	1,50	a	1,75
Peaches, dried,	2,00	a	2,50
Potatoes	25	a	31
Hay, ton,	5,00	a	6,00
Wood, hard, cord.	1,25	a	1,50
Salt, bbl.,	1,75	a	1,87
SEEDS.			
Clover, bu.,	4,25	a	4,50
Timothy,	3,00	a	3,50
Flax,	75	a	81
ASHES,			
Pot, 100 lbs..	2,75	a	3,00
Pearl,	3,50	a	3,75
Scorched salts,	2,50	a	

SUPERIOR GARDEN SEEDS,

For sale at the Office of the Ohio Cultivator.

☞ Most of the kinds will be sold in small papers, at 5 cts. each; but when large quantities are wanted, many of them can be had by weight or measure, at reasonable prices.

Lake Erie Nursery, Cleveland, Ohio,

ELLIOTT & CO., Proprietors.

THE proprietors of this Nursery offer for sale one of the largest stocks of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c., &c., ever offered in Ohio.

Orders through the Post Office or otherwise, will receive prompt attention, and when desired, trees will be packed in such order that they may be conveyed many hundred miles without injury.

Cleveland, May 1, 1846.

SWEET POTATOES.

A FEW thousand sweet potato plants; also a choice selection of Garden Seeds raised the past season, to be had on application to the subscriber, north-east corner of Seventh and Broad Streets.

LEWIS JENKINS.

Columbus, O., May 1, 1846.

THE CELEBRATED TROTTING HORSE BELLFOUNDER.

WILL stand the present season in the city of Columbus, O., commencing on the first day of April, 1846, and ending the first day of July following, on the following conditions:

Single leap, $5, to be paid when the mare is served. Season, $8, to be paid by the first day of December next; secured by note of hand when the mare is served. Insurance, $12, to be paid as soon as the mare is known to be with foal, secured as above. Refer to handbills for pedigree and performance, and a description of his stock, by letters from Timothy T. Kissam, of N.B., the gentleman who bred him or to Maj. Wm. Barker, of this place

A. W. BROWN.

Columbus, March 7, 1846.

'SAMPSON' AND 'HERCULES.'

THE imported English Draft Horse 'Sampson,' and his three year old colt, 'Hercules,' will stand the ensuing season, at the Red Lion Hotel in Circleville.

TERMS.—For Sampson, $7 a single leap, $12 the season, and $15 to insure; for Hercules, $5, $8 and $10.

Mares from a distance will be taken by the season only, and charged the insuring price, with no extra charge for pasture.

B. F. EATON & BROTHERS.

Columbus and Circleville, March 1, 1846.

SEED STORE.

ELY & CAMPBELL,

23, Lower Market Street, Cincinnati.

WILL pay cash at the best market rates for Clover, Timothy; Orchard grass, Blue grass, Red Top, Flax and Mustard seed &c. Keep constantly on hand, and for sale, all kinds of Garden, Flower and field seeds. Also, Agricultural Implements, Agricultural and Horticultural books and papers. They also execute all orders for Fruit Trees, Ornamental Shrubs, &c.